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# Extension Service REVIEW

Library, Southwest Region,  
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Albuquerque, New Mexico.





## AN Editorial

# The Strength of Our Position

C. W. WARBURTON, Director of Extension Service

■ The repercussions of the European situation were quickly felt in this country. Soon after the war started, though far removed from here, food and feed prices began to go up. Housewives' first reaction was to lay in a supply of sugar and other foods. The public seemed to go through a week or two of excitement, then began to calm down with realization that ample food supplies are on hand and that the policy of this country is to stay out of war.

### *Food Reserves Ample*

As the Secretary of Agriculture put it in a radio talk to farmers, consumers, and middlemen, "We have reason to rejoice in the strength of our position." The Secretary referred to the plentiful supplies of wheat, corn, and cotton stored in the Ever-Normal Granary and to the effective organization controlled by farmers themselves which conserves, maintains, or augments supplies as needed.

Reserves of essential farm products stored under commodity loans against times of short crops are available now to meet any increased demand resulting from conditions in Europe. During the last year farmers carried under Government loan, or the Government itself held 80 million bushels of wheat, 260 million bushels of corn, 11 million bales of cotton, and smaller quantities of a number of other products.

A reserve of 800,000 short tons of sugar in the domestic sugar beet and sugarcane areas has been established. There are further large reserves in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and other Latin-American countries, assuring a plentiful supply for the next year or two.

An Agricultural Advisory Council, composed of leading producers, processors, and distributors, has been appointed by Secretary Wallace, and at its first meeting in September further reassured the public that ample food supplies were available and that the country is in much better all-round position to meet any emergencies than it was 25 years ago at the outbreak of war in Europe.

Now that the first few weeks of war excitement has passed, farm people and agricultural leaders, including extension workers, need to look at the more long-time effects the war may have in this country.

The Agricultural Advisory Council reported to Secretary Wallace that the war in Europe will strengthen many farm prices, but that consumers need have no fear of food shortage or run-away prices; and that such advances as do occur will tend to restore good balance between farm and city prices and help to bring about normal business and employment.

No doubt a long war in Europe would have its effect in this country on such things as land values, credit, foreign trade, and general business conditions. Though such a war might bring temporary relief for some surplus problems, it is very likely, in the long run, to aggravate farm problems.

It would therefore seem the part of wisdom for farmers to intrench themselves for whatever conditions may come rather than to overinvest in production for uncertain future demand in the face of present ample supplies and prices that are still below parity.

To that end extension workers in every county can do much to advise farm people and to furnish them the facts about the situation which they need in making their decisions. County agents are now at work in all counties of agricultural importance. County home demonstration agents are employed in nearly two-thirds of the counties and many counties have assistant county and home demonstration agents.

### *Extension Resources Available*

The men agents have an average of 8 years' experience in extension work and 6 years in the county in which they now work. The women agents have been in extension work an average of 5 years and in their present counties an average of 4 years. These agents have organized and are working with committees of local farm people in practically every county, and they have developed a network of more than a half million voluntary local leaders through whom they can quickly reach farmers in every nook and corner of their counties. Twenty-five years of work in good times and in bad times, in drought, in flood, and through the World War, have provided the Extension Service with a fund of information and experience on which to draw.

These are the resources which the Extension Service brings to its task of giving farm

people vital facts which affect the business of farming and the farm home. How we can best use those resources, the present extension machinery, to help farm people meet any new problems that may be brought on by conditions in Europe is something that every extension worker is no doubt seriously thinking about.

### *Opportunity in County Planning*

One of the best opportunities extension workers have this fall and winter to put the facts about the present situation and prospects for various commodities before farmers generally will be in connection with the annual outlook report for 1940 and the meetings and personal work with farm people that follows issuances of the national and various State outlook reports.

The organized county planning committees are proving in many counties to be a very effective means of getting information into practical use, and can be a real means for organized effort to maintain balanced farming. The county planning work not only makes excellent use of any information on agricultural outlook, results of experiments, and other research materials; but it is also a good source of local wisdom and local facts.

The AAA referendum on cotton quotas to be held on December 9 will give extension agents another excellent opportunity to make more effective the information available on cotton, such as supplies on hand, marketing prospects, new uses, and any other pertinent facts which might affect the future of the cotton country.

In countless other ways such as educational meetings to explain AAA programs and special activities in farm credit, land utilization, land tenure, and soil conservation, extension agents have a real opportunity to give farmers the facts about the present situation and to help them understand these facts; to help them to maintain balanced farming and conservation gains of recent years; and to help them to avoid mistakes.

I am convinced that extension agents will do their share in all these and other ways by following closely all new developments in the agricultural field and by being untiring in their efforts to make the latest information of practical use to the people in their county.



Published monthly by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The REVIEW is issued free by law to workers engaged in extension activities. Others may obtain copies from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 10 cents per copy or by subscription at 75 cents a year, domestic, and \$1.15, foreign. Postage stamps are not acceptable in payment.

EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • C. W. WARBURTON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

## Putting it Down in Black and White

■ Complete, accurate, and easily accessible records is a specialty of County Agent J. D. McVean of Kent County, Md., known to farmers of the county simply as Mr. Mac. Starting 10 years ago, when he first came to the county, he began assembling information on the individual farms of his county; and he has found that facts and pictures tell the story better than any amount of preaching.

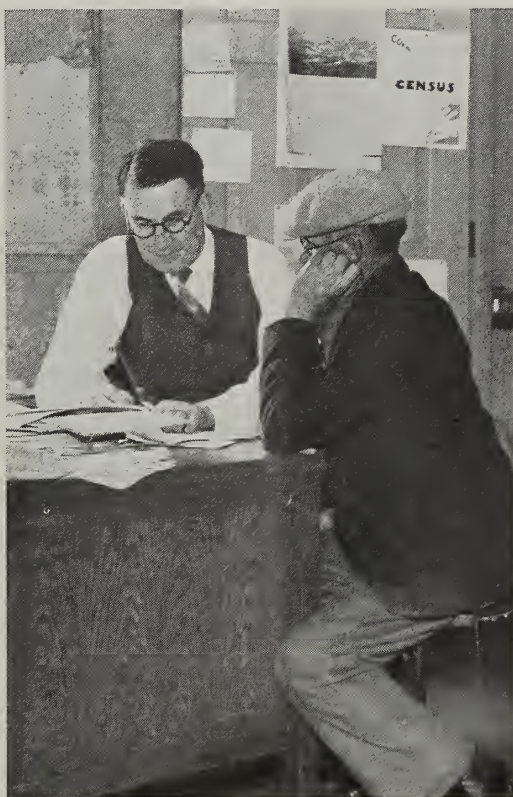
When AAA records began to come in, showing the production on every field on every farm in the county, he devised a system of keeping this information where it could be easily found by giving each farm a key number on a large map of the county. For instance, 3-11 is farm 11 in the third election district. All information on this farm is filed under the key number, and this number is used whenever the farm is referred to in any of the records. So he has a history of the farm rather than a history of the farmer—a history to which he adds frequently.

### *AAA Records Valuable*

To the AAA records he has added the results of extension demonstrations on the farm. He has been using NYA help also in copying from old courthouse records transfers of property title, assessment valuation, mortgage records, and such facts for each farm during the last 20 years. It is shown that 46 percent of the farms and 56 percent of the land is in tenant farms. Mr. Mac is hoping that a study of the records will bring out some of the facts of land tenure in the county and answer such questions as, Does making the farm support two families, landlord and tenant, result in run-down farms?

Under Mr. Mac's leadership, Kent County was one of the first counties in the East to be aerially mapped, and it has been worth its cost many times over. This was done in 1936 at a cost of about \$2,000, which was paid from AAA expense money.

An NYA helper trimmed and fitted together the 120 different pictures into a large wall



Two-thirds of the farmers in the county sometimes come to see County Agent McVean in a single month.

map which hangs in the county agent's office—an interesting record of the need of soil-erosion prevention and a comprehensive picture of the county with its distinctive situations and problems. Farmers have bought about 400 enlarged prints of sections and about 200 contact prints of the aerial pictures. Blue-line prints are available on 800 different farms, and more than 4,800 blue-line prints have been made and sold.

Farmers have learned to depend on the records in the agent's office. Before answering questions, Mr. Mac gets all the available records on the farm before him, and these clarify many things for the farmer and the agent.

The agent receives all the office calls he can handle. On almost any afternoon, when he is in the office, there is a long line of farmers waiting to talk to him about some of their problems. Often, about two-thirds of the farmers in the county visit his office during the course of a month.

Soil erosion is the big problem of the county. When Mr. Mac said this 10 years ago, nobody believed him, so he began collecting proof. Last year, a soil-conservation district was voted and established because citizens of the county had seen and heard the telling story of decreased yields and lowered valuation figures presented in charts and circular letters. During the years, he collected from time to time some good before-and-after pictures showing soil erosion. A film strip was made and shown at meetings in the county. Contrasting pictures were pasted on posters and exhibited at extension meetings. It was all down in black and white and told a plain story of decreasing fertility and value. Technicians of the soil-conservation district are finding the records and the aerial maps of value in planning their work.

### *Chosen as Unified County*

With the excellent records available, Kent County was chosen as one of the experimental counties in program planning in 1937 under the Agricultural Adjustment program. Under the AAA program of that year the regulations were simplified and adapted to the needs of the county in a way which Mr. Mac felt gave a more effective program than any offered since then. Because they had studied the situation and worked out the program both the committee and the farmers thoroughly understood how and why it worked. The recorded experience with the 1937 program planning pointed the way to the present unified county planning which Kent County is trying out for the State of Maryland.

"A complete and accurate record logically filed where you can find it when you need it is invaluable in arriving at a conclusion and in proving your point," says Mr. Mac.



# Preview of Regional Research Laboratories

**DR. HENRY G. KNIGHT, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering**

■ The Department of Agriculture's new emphasis on industrial research is finding expression in the four regional research laboratories provided by Congress to develop more profitable uses for waste and surplus farm products and byproducts. The law provides for four regional research laboratories to cost not more than \$1,000,000 each and to have not more than \$1,000,000 each annually for operation.

Secretary Wallace first appointed an over-all department committee to decide on how the country should be divided into major farm-producing areas as the law directs and on the commodities each laboratory is to work on; a survey committee to find out what research is now being carried on in those fields by all agencies in this country, public and private, and to outline a program for the laboratories; and a construction committee to make the physical plans for the four laboratories and their equipment.

## *Regionalizing Research*

One of the first of the knotty problems was that of how to divide the country into regions so that the work could be most logical and efficient without duplication.

Of first importance were the natural boundaries determined by the long-established agricultural practices and the principal crops grown. But it was not possible to follow the boundaries of those crop areas because of the overlapping and variations in agricultural conditions. Therefore, we considered various other factors—farm population, value of farm property, cash income from crops and livestock, land in farms, and total land areas. No single one of the four regions has less than 7 percent of the farm population nor more than 34 percent. None has so little of the total value of farm property as to be considered of minor importance, and no area has enough so that it might be considered overwhelmingly dominant. The same can be said of cash income. Crop income is fairly evenly divided as to the southern, eastern, and western areas. The northern area, with 42 percent of the cash income, is not considered too much out of line when we take into account the other criteria, especially when we consider the type of agriculture and the surplus problems found there.

Although the eastern area has only 14 percent of the land in farms, it has 28 percent of the farm population. On the other hand, the western area is the largest geographically, but the smallest in farm population.

After painstaking study of all the selected

factors, the final grouping involved less total divergence among the four areas than any other grouping.

The research loads of the four laboratories had to be balanced, as by law the funds are allocated equally among them. That fact explains why you will find a certain crop worked on in one laboratory when it might just as well have been in another. Tobacco, for example, is allotted to the eastern region, but it would not have been out of place in the southern.

Once the geographic areas for the laboratories had been marked off by the committee, definite locations for the buildings had to be selected. I think we considered about 200 localities and visited about 80 of them, out of which we could use only 4. The locations selected are New Orleans, La., Wyndmoor, Pa. (near Philadelphia), Peoria, Ill., and Albany, Calif. (near San Francisco). We kept certain requirements in mind for every one of these locations—the stimulus of proper environment and professional contacts, the need for technologic assistance and services of the various kinds all laboratories need. We considered transportation; the relation of the city or town to producing areas or points of concentration for the farm commodities of the region; the ease of access to related processing industries, particularly those that have been developing new processes and new materials through research; accessibility of the State agricultural experiment stations of the region; and convenience in obtaining supplies, services, and equipment. Also we had to consider the availability of good sites and housing and living conditions.

## *Selecting the Crops*

When it came to the selection of crops to be studied, it was evident that all our important crops are now and then in surplus, and some of those that are not so important. For first work, commodities that seemed most in need of attention because of size of surplus, the number of agricultural workers dependent upon them, or the number of acres used in producing them were selected.

For the southern area, after consultation with all groups concerned, the Secretary's committee decided on cotton, sweetpotatoes, and peanuts; for the eastern area, tobacco, apples, Irish potatoes, milk products, and vegetables; for the northern area, corn, wheat, and agricultural waste products; and for the western area, fruits (other than apples), vegetables, Irish potatoes, wheat, and alfalfa.

By and large, it is fairly clear why these crops were selected. Certainly they are all important at first glance. Much starch is contained in corn, wheat, and potatoes. These products give great quantities of byproducts and include the big surplus crops. There are plenty of people who will say that all the important crops are not included, but who knows what is big and what is small?

The Department's special survey committee made a comprehensive survey of the research activities now directed toward the industrial utilization of farm commodities and made recommendations as to the scope of investigations to be undertaken. In order to avoid duplication of effort insofar as possible, the committee made a check-up on research that is now going on in the various fields and suggested possible promising openings for further research. Out of this impressive lot of information and suggestions there has been developed a program for a beginning in the new laboratories when they are finished and equipped ready for work.

There are thousands of tests or investigations that might be undertaken, even if the list were limited to problems relating to only a few commodities. We have tried to prepare an orderly, limited set of projects as the most hopeful way of insuring useful results that might be applied in industry. The more complete program will naturally grow up as the details for specific projects of the new laboratories are developed during the coming months. Agricultural commodities are of great variety and, fortunately, for broadly applicable results of research work, many of them have common constituents. A number of them are made up principally of starch, protein, fats and oils, cellulose, and a few constituents not so well known. We shall take advantage of this fact and arrange that much of the experimental work and engineering development deal with these common constituents. In studying starch, projects might be planned so narrowly as to apply only to corn, but the regional laboratories will try to approach the starch problem by a study of the fundamental characteristics of all starches as well as the particular characteristics of those from various groups.

The proposed research program on corn, for example, briefly, will include work on motor fuels, starch, glucose, and fermentation products. Much work has been done in these fields, but not so much when we consider what we need to know. Who knows, for example, what may be possible as motor fuel in the future—maybe a glucose product, or dry starch, or possibly a



gaseous fuel from vegetable sources? That is one aspect of the starch problem, but there are other possibilities such as the derivatives. Starch today is one of our cheapest organic materials of high purity.

We intend to undertake a comprehensive survey of the technical literature on corn and cotton processing and utilization; to study industrial utilization as affected by composition of the germ, hull, and endosperm with respect to starch, fat, protein, pigments, and enzymes. We plan to work on dry and wet milling of corn; the isolation and characterization of the proteins, gluten byproducts, and fermentation residues; variations in composition and characteristics of corn oil from different types of corn and produced by different processes.

We shall study the deposition, structure, and composition of the starch granule; differences between starch from various sources; properties of organized and disorganized starch granules, and of starch, starch derivatives, and their solutions, such as viscosity and elasticity. Other angles include the conversion of starch derivatives by means of various techniques; modification of the surface of starch molecules by chemical and physical means; conversion of various starches to modified starches, dextrans, and gums, and determination of their colloidal, physical, and chemical properties; and determination of properties of the various crystalline forms of such sugars as glucose, fructose, xylose, and the preparation of their derivatives. Such work as this goes beyond the field of a single commodity.

#### *Representative Scientists Consulted*

The survey committee presented a skeleton outline of the program for each region to representatives of research groups in that region before the plan was adopted. The meeting for the South was held at Birmingham, that for the West in Salt Lake City, that for the North in Chicago, and the one for the East at Washington. The programs as outlined were accepted at these meetings.

The principal plans and specifications for the four laboratory buildings were worked up by a large staff of architects and engineers last winter, and bids were accepted in time for construction work to begin on all of them in June. The principal parts of these buildings are to be finished by midsummer of next year. The four directors of the laboratories were appointed early last winter, and in the meantime progress has been made in the selection of keymen to head various research projects.

The ready cooperation and understanding that the Department has encountered in developing plans for the work of the new research laboratories is a good augury for the ultimate success of this broad-scale research venture. I hope that the increase in scope of the Department's work in this field will act as a stimulus to all groups that see in this kind of research a means of reducing the stature of some of the country's most vexing problems.

## Land Use Considers Wildlife

**IRA N. GABRIELSON, Chief, Biological Survey**

For many years the Biological Survey has been administered as a bureau of the Department of Agriculture. Though on July 1 it was transferred to the Department of the Interior, the work of the Biological Survey will continue to be carried on in close cooperation with the plans for a Nation-wide agricultural program. Just how the work of the Survey ties in closely with that of Agriculture is described by Mr. Gabrielson.

■ Within the past few years the Biological Survey has had its first opportunity to apply a well-balanced program of wildlife restoration and conservation. For many years the Survey has recognized the extreme importance of land improvement as an essential factor in the solution of the problem, but from lack of legislative authorization and funds for land acquisition this part of the program made little growth until 1933. Wildlife is a product of the soil, an organic resource capable of being used and renewed as long as an adequate seed stock is preserved and soil fertility remains to produce food and cover crops for its support. This is the principle underlying the Survey's activities.

Since 1934, upwards of 21 million dollars have gone into the acquisition and development of lands. The Survey now has 254 wildlife areas comprising a total of more than 13½ million acres. One hundred and ninety-eight of these have been established for migratory birds and are so situated that they provide protection for the birds as they move from northern breeding grounds to the wintering areas in the South. Large areas have also been set aside in the western country for the protection of big game—principally those species seriously in need of permanent sanctuaries. Recent executive orders have established game ranges for mountain sheep in Arizona and for antelope in northern Nevada and southern Oregon.

The Federal and State Governments cannot, however, acquire and maintain sufficient lands to meet all the needs of wildlife. Other than for the perpetuation of certain species and to provide a national program for certain forms such as migratory waterfowl, the Federal and State Governments must look to the landowners themselves as the producers of the wild birds and animals.

During the past 6 years, the Government has put forth enormous effort to provide for agriculture a stable income and a balanced relationship with the rest of our economy. In this endeavor the Government has sought to promote the conservation of our basic resources while attempting to adjust some of the other problems of the farm.

These programs all have a bearing on the agricultural picture, but each has an opportunity for service to wildlife if wisely used in the interests of conservation.

Fortunately, it has been recognized that the conservation of wildlife has a definite place in any program of land use, and great strides have been made in coordinating wildlife needs with other sound land-management practices. Wildlife has been given a permanent place in the revitalized program of land use and land development as envisioned by the Department of Agriculture, and as a result farmers and other landowners are being made more conscious of this factor than they have ever been in the history of the country.

The needs of wildlife on the farm have been given definite consideration, and whenever local planning groups gather to make up their program there is opportunity for a wildlife man to be present and sit in at the conference. The Biological Survey, as the chief wildlife agency of the Federal Government, has been requested to take an active part; and we have designated one of our representatives to serve on State land-planning committees in each State. State game departments will also be called into consultation to assist in developing plans and procedures which will be of the most possible benefit.

The increased activities and the growing interest in wildlife conservation shown by the administrators of the various land-use agencies in the Federal Government indicate one of the most encouraging trends that I have witnessed in all my years with the Biological Survey. This sentiment, if properly fostered and encouraged, will result in wildlife needs being made a part of all land-use planning and will mean that our cause will be financed and carried along incidental to the other programs dealing with agriculture.

■ Rural-life Sundays in Wyoming sponsored by the 4-H Clubs during the month of June proved successful. A total of 34 meetings with an attendance of 3,342 people were planned and held under the direction of local committees with the help of ministers and extension agents.



# Electricity Goes to the Farm

**HARRY SLATTERY, Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration**

Rural Electrification Administration, a newcomer to the Department, has a definite part to play in the national agricultural program, as explained by Secretary Wallace in the first of this series of articles. Next month, M. L. Wilson, Under Secretary of Agriculture, will discuss the problem of translating the plans for an agricultural program into action through the coordination of existing agencies.

■ To make farm life worthy of the people who live on the land has long been the guiding principle of the Department of Agriculture in its work with farm people. A new agency has now joined the Department of Agriculture family in the work toward this objective.

The Rural Electrification Administration, which became a part of the Department of Agriculture on July 1, 1939, makes a significant contribution to the efforts toward improvement of farm living and farm operations. The transfer emphasizes the agricultural importance of the rural electrification program and assures closer coordination of its efforts with other programs serving the interests of agriculture.

Years ago farmers discovered that electricity could make rural life more efficient, more profitable, and happier and richer in every way. They saw how, in the cities, electricity for lights and household appliances contributed greatly to the comfort and cleanliness of the home. They saw factories turning to electric power in order to make their operations more economical. But they saw, too, that so far as the electrical age went, they themselves were disinherited. Electricity was first applied to agricultural production about 1900. Yet a whole generation later, at the close of 1934, only about 700,000 American farms—hardly more than 10 percent of the total—were enjoying the advantages.

## *Challenge of Rural Electrification*

Here, then, was a challenge—a challenge to provide for the great farm family of the United States a larger share in those things that make up an American standard of living. To meet this challenge, President Roosevelt, in May 1935, created the Rural Electrification Administration, with authority to finance rural electric distribution systems in areas not already receiving service. Rural electrification, stagnant for years before REA was established, felt a new and dynamic impulse. So promising was the activity of the first year that the Congress, through the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, authorized a 10-year program.

Under the terms of its act, REA makes long-term loans, principally to nonprofit organizations, such as farmers' cooperatives, to cover the entire cost of building self-liquidating rural electrification projects. The interest on these loans is low—at present something less than 3 percent. In addition, REA lends funds to project sponsors, which they in turn may relend to individual farmers, to help finance the wiring of farmstead and outbuildings and the installation of modern plumbing.

## *Shows Concrete Results*

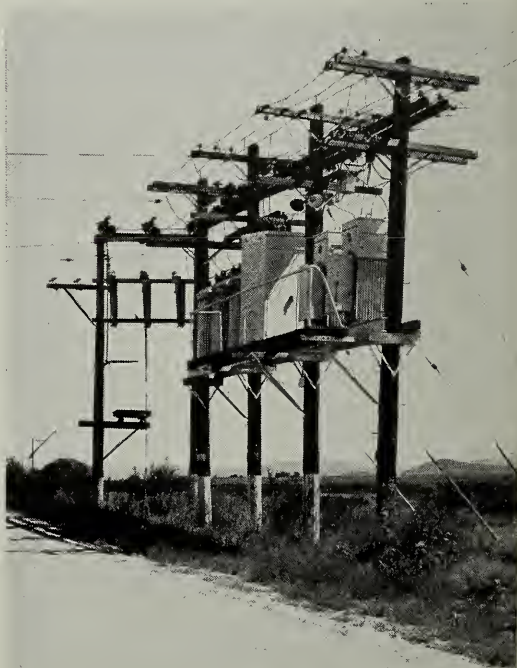
REA has been functioning for a little more than 4 years. The concrete results of its work may be indicated by a few figures. By September 15, 1939, REA had lent or allotted \$249,708,793. Most of this money is to go for building rural distribution lines—approximately 235,000 miles of them, bringing electric service within reach of more than 600,000 farm families. Already 125,000 miles of REA-financed lines are rendering service to 275,000 new users of electricity. When funds currently available have been translated into construction, it is estimated that lines financed by REA will total about a quarter of a million miles, offering low-cost service to something like 700,000 families in all.

So much for what REA has done and is doing through its own construction program. But it may also claim some share in stimulating private utilities to accelerate their work in rural areas. Compared with the 700,000 farms electrified at the end of 1934, we now have, it is estimated, well over 1,500,000 electrified farms in the United States. In attaining this result, REA has provided leadership to the rural electrification movement in several ways. For example, REA insists that whole areas be developed through well-planned, integrated systems. This principle is in sharp contrast with the earlier utility company practice of skimming the cream. It means that all, or nearly all, the farmers in a given area may have electricity on advantageous terms, and it means, too, that uneconomical pockets between cream areas are eliminated. Moreover, by standardizing and simplifying specifications for rural line

construction, REA has brought the average cost of a mile of line—about \$1,500 in the old days—down to less than \$1,000. And these lines are safe and sturdy. They have stood up excellently under heavy sleet and wind. On one REA-financed project in Texas, a storm which wrecked steel transmission towers left lines of this type practically intact.

Through rural electrification, hundreds of thousands of farm people all over the country are winning a new freedom from inconvenience and burdensome toil. Washing machines, irons, vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, ranges, running-water systems—all powered by electricity—are everywhere helping to make the thousand and one jobs of keeping house and caring for a family easier, quicker, and cleaner. In farm operations, too, electricity is proving its capacity to make profits for the farmer through dozens of applications such as lighting and electric brooding for poultry farms and electric milking and cooling for dairy farms. Even the children benefit from rural electrification. In rural schools, electricity relieves eyestrain, makes hot lunches possible, cuts down fire hazards, and provides power for new shop equipment.

The picture of accomplishment to date is a heartening one. It reveals steady, rapid progress toward the Government's objective of making low-cost electric power available to farmers. But the job ahead is still of huge proportions. About 5,300,000 American farms are still unelectrified. As Secretary Wallace said when REA was transferred to the Department of Agriculture: "Now the great resources of this Department and all of its bureaus will be thrown behind the REA program, as it becomes possible to take advantage of them effectively \* \* \* We will take electric service to all the farms we can."





# Mississippi AAA and Live-at-Home Week

F. J. HURST, Extension Editor, Mississippi

■ The Mississippi AAA and Live-at-Home Week was one of the most intensive and successful informational campaigns ever carried on in the State. This was made possible through the cooperation of the Mississippi Extension Service, State AAA officials, county farm and home demonstration agents, county administrative assistants, county and community AAA committeemen, and home demonstration leaders, assisted by representatives of all other agricultural agencies and farm organizations, together with the united support of the daily and weekly newspapers.

The purpose of the campaign was to give all farmers and farm women full information and practical suggestions on how they could use the 1939 AAA program to adjust farm production, raise family living, earn AAA payments, and build soil fertility.

During the week preceding the campaign, county training meetings for county and community AAA committeemen, vocational teachers, farm security supervisors, home demonstration officers, and other agricultural leaders were held in 77 of the 82 counties of the State in preparation for the community meetings. The following received training for and helped to map plans for the community meetings: 215 county committeemen, 1,359 community committeemen, 105 vocational teachers, 70 farm security supervisors, 127 farm bureau leaders, 40 cooperative cotton association officials, 42 representatives of county cooperatives, 287 members of county councils, 1,286 other leaders, and the Negro county farm and home demonstration agents, making a total attendance of 3,413 leaders.

The agents held 963 community meetings with white farmers with an attendance of 63,883, and 337 community meetings with Negro farmers with an attendance of 36,926, giving a total of 1,300 community meetings and an attendance of 100,809 farm people, all held the week of March 20 to 25.

## *Circular Letters Written*

The white county agents wrote 145 different circular letters, 217,029 copies of which were mailed to farmers. The agents furnished all producers with a copy of an Individual Farm Planning Sheet; Schedule of 1939 Soil-Building Practices for Mississippi; and 335,685 copies of SR Leaflet 301-B, How the 1939 AAA Farm Program Works; and other informational material.

Cooperating by giving the strongest kind of support, the daily and weekly newspapers published a large volume of informational material which the extension editor furnished.

Eighteen weekly newspapers published special farm pages; 1 of the largest daily papers published a special farm section; 35 papers published special editorials; and all the newspapers cooperated wholeheartedly.

A Prentiss, Miss., newspaper published two full pages, 1,000 extra copies of which were printed for distribution to farmers who attended community meetings in Jefferson Davis County but who were not subscribers to the paper. Thirty-five local business firms in Prentiss cooperated in the program by posting the double-page lay-out in their windows during the 2 weeks of the campaign. The paper also carried a strong editorial on the front page.

The extension editor prepared Extension Leaflet No. 14, entitled "Mississippi Farmers Can Use the 1939 AAA Program to Adjust Farm Production, Raise Family Living, Earn AAA Payments, Build Soil Fertility," 100,000 copies of which were distributed during the campaign, including copies sent to State and Federal agricultural officials.

In some of the counties the county school authorities furnished school busses that made the regular runs to carry farmers to night meetings.

Although representatives of all agricultural agencies and farm organizations have always cooperated with the Extension Service and AAA officials in informational work, probably never before did these leaders give such enthusiastic support to an informational effort. Commendation must go to the county agents for the able and efficient manner in which they organized the forces of their counties and the enthusiastic and aggressive way in which they took the lead in the campaign.

In Coahoma County, where the farmers were invited to attend a county-wide meeting with the county and community committeemen, County Agent Harris Barnes said: "We had a courthouse overflowing with landlords, tenants, and other interested parties. We held several community meetings with the Negro tenants in various sections of the county and continued to hold these meetings for the next several weeks. This type of meeting was held at the invitation of landlords in the respective communities of the county. We explain to both landlord and tenant the fact that all parties concerned are supposed to take a reduction in cotton acreage and to plant the diverted acreage to feed, food, and soil-improving crops. We find that this type of meeting, where both landlord and tenant are present in the Negro churches and schools, is making for a much better understanding of the program on the

part of both landlord and tenant and is making for a much better working relationship between the two groups. Prior to the holding of the meetings reported, we held meetings in every community in the county for both white and Negro farmers at the white consolidated schools of the county."

## *Twice as Many Interested*

In Quitman County, Agent D. L. Edson reported: "Our response and attendance was the best we have ever had. More than twice as many people attended these meetings than attended previous educational meetings. The week of March 20 to 25 was a beautiful week for work, yet the farmers came out to night meetings and practically filled every auditorium where the meetings were held. At some meetings it was necessary for some to stand. Our producers are better satisfied with the administration and provisions of this program than with any in the past.

County Agent O. C. Shipp of Humphreys County began his campaign early in 1939, for he saw that the county AAA program might bog down owing primarily to lack of farmer information. He began to hold regular monthly meetings of all local and county committeemen, at which time he took up some particular phase of the AAA and drilled them on the regulations in regard to that item. For example, at the February meeting, they studied assignments; at the January meeting, payments, and at the March meeting, tenant complaints. The extension work that tied in with the part of the AAA program under discussion was emphasized.

"We use our county committee to direct the policy to be followed by the county agent's office. We use our local committeemen to disseminate information to the communities and in turn to keep us in line with the thinking of the farmers and to keep up with the information needed and requested by the farmers," reports Agent Shipp.

Following the example of Agent Whitaker, of Washington County, he sent out a series of informational letters to farmers, headed "Turnrow Talks." This worked well in Washington County and served a useful purpose in Humphreys County.

Mr. Shipp is using four methods of disseminating information to farmers regularly: The county paper, committeemen, community meetings, and circular letters. These four approaches, he states, reach 75 percent of the farm operators. The other 25 percent get the information indirectly from neighbors.



# Kansas All-State Soil Conservation Day

■ The second Kansas All-State Soil Conservation Day brought out 1,400 farm leaders from 94 Kansas counties. Farm tours and field meetings were held at 4 Soil Conservation Service project areas, at 6 soil-conservation association gatherings, and at the Soil Conservation Service Experiment Station at Hays, Kans.

The All-State Soil Conservation Day was planned early and included in the 1939 extension program for the State. The State extension committee, at the beginning of the current year, reserved June 2, 1939, for a conservation field day on all county programs. The setting of a definite date gave assurance that no other extension activities would be scheduled to interfere with this program.

The object of this type of program was to explain and demonstrate to farm leaders the type of soil-conservation practices that are being conducted on Kansas farms. Tours were arranged in each of 11 areas. Visits were made to demonstrations of soil and water conservation.

At noon a short program was conducted at which representatives of Kansas State College discussed the value and need of conservation and explained how a cooperative program could be obtained by means of soil-conservation districts, soil-conservation associations, and soil-conservation demonstration farms.

Representatives of the Soil Conservation Service explained how farm plans were developed with cooperators after they were obtained by districts, associations, or demonstration farms.

## Worth a Dozen Night Meetings

**A. D. CAREW, County Agent, Green Lake County, Wis.**

■ I have had a feeling for a number of years that more effective teaching and lasting impressions can be made by actually working with objective materials. For example, if I make a farm visit and while there prune a fruit tree, I believe that the farmer will remember the visit much longer and that I will have a closer tie-up with the farm.

Putting this theory into practice about 8 years ago, I had a self-feeder built according to the Wisconsin plan. I bought a sack of tankage and a sack of linseed meal and

In advertising the meetings, Director Umberger, of the Kansas Extension Service, first notified all county agents that June 2 was reserved for them to visit some conservation area. An illustrated letter, "Pointing to a Fresh Date," was then prepared by the extension conservationist and mailed to all extension agents, vocational agricultural teachers, key bankers, secretaries of chambers of commerce, and Soil Conservation Service technicians.

District agents notified their county agents that June 2 was reserved for soil conservation and urged that they attend some area. A letter prepared by the extension conservationist and approved by district agents suggested that county agents encourage bankers, business organizations, and others to provide transportation for large groups.

An illustrated letter was sent to 973 leaders in Kansas as a last reminder to them to attend the tours and bring a carload of people with them, and a block-in letter was sent to all county agents for them to copy and send to their leaders.

The publicity department of the State extension service sent news articles to all daily and weekly newspapers on May 15. At the same time, notices were given over 15 commercial radio stations and over the college station, KSAC. A week later, an additional notice with a map showing location of Soil Conservation Service areas was sent to all newspapers, dailies, and weeklies, and to radio stations. Short daily stories were released over all commercial radio stations and over the college station, KSAC, beginning 12 days before the meetings.

loaded these materials on a truck, having arranged in advance for four demonstration meetings on farms in the chief hog-growing sections in the county. James J. Lacey, extension meat specialist, was scheduled to appear with me at the meetings. We advertised that farmers could actually see just how the feeder was made and would be furnished plans by which to build additional feeders. The response was very gratifying, and when the truck pulled into a farmyard it was greeted by 30 to 50 swine men. This device enabled us to outline a swine-

sanitation program as well as to talk feeding.

At another series of meetings on farms to acquaint farmers with anemia in little pigs and how to prevent it, I announced that I would carry with me a supply of iron and copper solution to be distributed at cost to those who attended the meeting and asked them to bring containers. We demonstrated how to use this material and again had very satisfactory attendance. Other types of meetings we held on the swine project were butchering and meat-cutting demonstrations where we actually showed the farmers how to perform those tasks.

A colt-breaking demonstration, a big hitch, a colt show, and botting horses for control of parasites are other activities practiced in this field with the assistance of Dr. Beach and Professor Fuller, both of the University of Wisconsin.

### *Beginning With a Demonstration*

Seven or eight years ago I lined up about 15 flocks of sheep and went out and drenched these flocks 3 times at 5-week intervals for the control of stomach worms. At that time no flocks in the county were being drenched, although many sheep were infected with stomach worms. From this small beginning we obtained the adoption of this practice universally throughout the county. Docking and castrating lambs were other means of actually showing how to do certain farm tasks. Shearing demonstrations followed, and now we have shown farmers how to dip sheep effectively.

When I first came to Green Lake County, 10 years ago, I arranged with the lumber dealers to build a portable brooder house for poultry and then called meetings and pointed out features of the Wisconsin type brooder house and distributed plans. Poultry culling and pullet selection, and meetings at which we conducted post-mortems on sick birds brought to the meeting are other means used in teaching this phase of farming.

Two grain-seed-treating devices were made and meetings arranged throughout the barley-growing areas of the county. We obtained Ceresan and actually treated wheat, oats, and barley at the meetings. Barley-seed-treating demonstrations have been held in all parts of the county. On other occasions we have called meetings at a dairy farm and had a farmer draw blood samples and showed under the microscope the glutination test for Bang's disease. Orchard pruning, spraying demonstrations, and bridge-grafting demonstrations in farm orchards have been used to acquaint farmers with these practices. Many fertilizer trials with check strips left in the field proved valuable in demonstrating good practices to farmers.

I believe that such meetings held on farms, at which you actually show farmers certain good practices, are worth a dozen night meetings held in a hall.



# Negro Cooperative Sawmill Makes Building Possible

**E. A. RANDOLPH, Negro County Agent, Fayette County, Tex.**

■ Looking at the sawmill demonstration conducted by C. W. Simmons, extension farm forester, held at the Prairie View farmers' short course in 1937, I saw a great opportunity for a large number of Negro farmers to get much-needed lumber at a very small cost. About 80 percent of our farmers need lumber very badly for repairs on farm buildings and homes, and many need new structures of various kinds; in fact, nearly every farm needs some kind of repairs or remodeling.

I discussed the idea with most of the leading Negro farmers throughout the county; and, after a few meetings with the farmers' council, a decision was made to form a cooperative and purchase a portable sawmill similar to the one used by Mr. Simmons in his demonstrations. This cooperative group signed a note at a local bank, borrowing \$265 to order the necessary parts from the factory. It was decided that the small profits made in sawing for nonmembers would be used to help pay the notes; and if these were insufficient, the members would make up the difference. Membership fees were used to complete the construction of the mill, which cost \$355, including an inserted tooth lumber saw, a shingle saw, an old automobile motor, chassis, and tires, a two-wheel trailer, and all labor and materials required in construction.

Each member may saw for himself any quantity of lumber or shingles at only the

cost of operation of the sawmill, which will range from about \$4 to \$7 per thousand board feet. It may be as low as \$2 per thousand when a member learns to operate the mill with his own labor. Nonmembers pay the mill \$12 per thousand, and the mill is set up in the woods where the logs are cut down.

To date this little sawmill has cut 132,000 board feet of lumber, all of which was used on the farms for various purposes; and it is evident that only about 5 percent of this lumber would have been bought at retail for the new poultry houses, barns, stock shelters, wagon and implement tongues, double-trees, and home repairs.

Most of the Negro farmers own their own farms and have fairly good saw timber of such woods as red elm, pin oak, white oak, post oak, ash, cottonwood, and hackberry. A few farmers in the northern section of the county have pine. The mechanical features of the portable sawmill are very simple. The motor from an old 1925 model automobile has been left on its original chassis. The mill is transported with one end on the motor chassis and the other end on a two-wheeled trailer. A variable friction power feed was constructed from old automobile parts for \$22.

This cooperative sawmill is making possible the construction of a Negro extension service building in La Grange. This building is 30 by 64 feet and has two office rooms and 1,110 square feet of floor space for farmers' shop

work and 450 square feet of floor for a women's department of extension work. All lumber and shingles are being cut by the farmers' cooperative sawmill. The lumber is mostly pine found here in the county and some cottonwood, post oak, pin oak, red elm, and cedar. Shingles are being made from cottonwood, pine, pin oak, and red elm. These sawmill members are donating the use of their mill to cut all lumber and shingles needed for this building. The County Commissioners' Court voluntarily cooperated in buying a lot and all necessary materials other than lumber to construct the building. Through the splendid cooperation of J. C. Yeary, county agricultural agent, and the NYA officials, this building was allotted \$900 for 30 NYA boys' labor in constructing the building. Thus, the building is at present about half completed. This building is valued at \$3,050. The NYA officials are now anxious to draw up another project for us in constructing a large extension exhibit hall and auditorium which may follow our present building.

The 10 members of this cooperative are all very proud of their investment which has returned several times the amount in lumber.

## Arkansas Forage Schools

More than 600 farmers, 61 county agents, and 20 assistant agents attended the 4 forage schools held in Arkansas.

At each of the schools emphasis was placed on hay, silage, and pasture. Information presented by the extension specialists showed that the total supply of hay, silage, and pasture should all be greatly increased if the State's present population of farm animals is to be fed on an optimum basis.

The extension officials estimated that hay production is about 60 percent of what it should be, silage only about 25 percent of desired production, and that the productive capacity of pastures could easily be doubled.

Demonstrations conducted at the forage schools showed the quality of different samples of hay, stage for cutting hay, storing and stacking hay, cutting silage with both home-made sled cutter and corn binder, silage-cutter adjustment, and construction and filling of one type of temporary silo.

Pasture tours were held at each school to demonstrate desirable seeding mixtures and methods for getting increased germination and better stands of certain grasses, the use of a mowing machine in pasture management, control of run-off water on pastures, and type of fertilization required for best pasture growth.

■ More than 30,000 farmers visited the fields of their neighbors to observe results of soil-conserving and soil-building practices during the cover-crops campaign recently conducted by Tennessee county agents.

Negro farmers bring their logs to the sawmill and go home with boards and shingles to repair their buildings.





# Tomorrow's Opportunities

Director L. R. Simons of New York and Director T. B. Symons of Maryland survey some of the opportunities that lie ahead, as seen from the vantage point of 25 years of successful service.

## Retrospect and Prospect

**T. B. SYMONS,**  
**Director of Extension,**  
**Maryland**

■ Extension work was born out of the demands of rural people for definite information pertaining to their problems. The more complicated problems in the agricultural industry that have developed in the last 2 decades have demonstrated how fortunate it was that such ground work had been established in earlier years.

In Maryland, decided changes have been noted in the agriculture of communities, and even of counties and regions. Not only has there been improvement in practices and yields, but whole sections have dropped one character of agriculture and undertaken another. Dairying on the Eastern Shore has developed from a very small beginning to a substantial industry; and the fruit industry in certain sections has been practically eliminated, owing to weather, markets, and other factors. There has been a tremendous change in the marketing of farm products by virtue of developments in transportation systems, many phases of which, unfortunately, have been detrimental to farming interests, particularly the trucking industry, in this State.

One practice in drainage and land use that was started in a simple way by county agents has developed into a comprehensive system enabling farmers to take advantage of emergency measures enacted recently, and of the CCC camps.

Curtailment of certain crops, such as wheat, and substitution of barley as a more profitable feed crop, were undertaken even before the Nation-wide crop adjustment programs were launched.

I consider that the constructive work conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture through the Extension Service in cooperation with this State presented an ideal set-up for inauguration of the many emergency programs that have been necessary since 1933. The policy adopted in Maryland during these emergency, or so-called action programs has been to coordinate the work just as closely as possible. For that reason, we have encouraged the county agents to take the lead with their farmers in conducting the various programs in the counties. We recognize that in doing this

we have overburdened the agents and undoubtedly have curtailed extension work in many lines that were formerly done by these forces.

Thinking of the present and the immediate future, we face the broad policy of land use and program planning. It is a fine approach to the complex problems that have evolved during the years of extension work, together with the absolute need for maintaining and increasing the income of the rural population. I hope that we may be able to direct efforts in the development of land use programs on four fronts: (1) Continuation of regular extension work; (2) more emphasis on the need for cooperation and other improvements in marketing and distribution; (3) continued emphasis on the importance of soil conservation and a broader attack upon the problems; and (4) an intelligent and careful study of land classification.

I believe that we can obtain the active support of all people on these approaches to proper land use. Obviously, all of them are long-time programs, but the second and third are certainly problems that will not be finally solved in the next 25 years.

Never in our whole history have greater opportunities for constructive educational leadership been presented. We are not so much interested in what has been done as in what will be done in the years ahead.

## Path to the Future

**L. R. SIMONS,**  
**Director of Extension,**  
**New York**

■ Twenty-five years ago I started extension work as the first county agent in Nassau County, N. Y. In those pioneer days every county agent, like myself, found it necessary to blaze a new trail. There were no well-formulated policies or plans. We all began by demonstrating simple practices—growing better potatoes and apples by spraying, increasing milk yields by feeding balanced rations, improving the soil by plowing under cover crops or by better rotations. Later, with more experience and maturity, we broadened the scope of our activities and helped farmers with their farm-management and marketing problems.

It was evident that little could be accomplished without the cooperation of the people

themselves in determining programs and policies, in financing the work locally, and in actively assisting in so expanding the various activities that everyone who would could take advantage of them.

Extension sometimes appears to accomplish so little. Farm incomes are low, in some instances lower than when we came along to help farmers to better their conditions. Many rural homes have few, if any, modern conveniences. Many rural communities have no social, religious, or recreational facilities. Then we may well ask ourselves, "What would conditions be had there been no extension work?" Other factors over which extension workers have no control have retarded agricultural progress. It is very difficult to measure the results of any educational enterprise. The people usually are good judges of success or failure. The fact that public funds are appropriated yearly by the county, State, and the Federal Government in support of Extension and that the paid membership in the county farm and home bureau associations is constantly increasing is a reasonably accurate measure of the success of the Extension Service in New York State.

### *Able Leaders Developed*

We also know that Extension has aided materially in developing rural leadership. This opportunity offered rural people to take part in planning and conducting extension activities has enabled many of them to grow into capable, progressive men and women. This is the outstanding accomplishment of the Extension Service and would more than justify its existence if little else had been done.

This year is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the passage of the Smith-Lever Act. Although Extension was well under way before 1914, that act gave greater permanency to the work and also aided materially in financing it. When this act was before the Congress, Senator Vardaman stated: "Now, the purpose of this bill is to help the tillers of the land to discover the hidden riches of the soil, to devise methods of cultivation which will lessen the burden of farm life by shortening the hours of drudgery, and render more productive the land. Its splendid purpose is to improve the man, enlarge his mental horizon, and give intelligent direction to his efforts. The effect also will be to add comforts to the country home, lighten the burdens of women, afford greater opportunities to the boys and girls upon whose shoulders soon must fall the responsibility of home and the burdens of government."

The Senator handed us a big order. Have we done what he expected we would? I may be prejudiced, but I think we have. However, opportunities for continued service are still great, perhaps greater than ever before, and we have much to do in helping to make farming more profitable and country life reasonably satisfying.



# Reaching More People Through Home Demonstration Work

A committee of the Extension Service Department of the American Home Economics Association appointed to study the subject "How to enlarge the extension program to reach more people," sent out questionnaires asking the home demonstration staffs of the States regarding effective methods.

In 37 States, the plans for reaching more people in the local community included an increase in the number of home demonstration agents; community surveys to determine the number of farm families in the community and the causes of nonparticipation; combining farm and home programs into community programs; the extension of land-use planning and program building to a greater number of counties and communities; increased leadership development and greater use of leadership already developed; an increasing number of home demonstration club meetings conducted by local leaders to free agents' time for reaching more people; the organization of groups within an area of a size that all members can attend; increasing the membership of local clubs to include all farm women in a community; home visits made by key demonstrators or local leaders; an increased use of the radio, press, and exhibits; a greater use of group discussion and community forums; and cooperation with other agencies in reaching masses.

Future plans for reaching more people through the county extension organizations

in these 37 States include a continuation of present plans in addition to a closer correlation of the home demonstration program with the long-time agricultural program—joint planning of men, women, boys, and girls; increasing the number of demonstration meetings of a general nature to further arouse interest of the general public in extension work; enlarging the personnel of county councils to include representatives of other organizations and agencies working in the rural field; providing key demonstrators or local leaders with increased opportunities to function; and enlarged publicity and radio programs.

According to the reports, land-use planning and cooperative activities with agricultural associations, vocational home economics groups, Farm Security Administration, Farm Credit Administration, Rural Electrification Administration, State health departments, and National Youth Administration have been a means of reaching and assisting more people.

Through land-use planning, farmers and farm women have come together to study and inventory the social, physical, and economic factors of land use; to map the land according to its present and recommended uses; and to plan a unified program that will meet the needs of the farm home and community, with the assistance of all Federal agencies.

Cooperative activities with vocational home economics groups included joint conferences

of extension and vocational home economics workers, representation of vocational home economics groups on county agricultural and home economics committees or county councils, cooperation in local leader training in community and county fair judging and in coaching 4-H clubs, cooperation in better homes, school lunch, and other community activities, as well as assistance rendered teachers through demonstrations and subject-matter bulletins made available to them.

The high points in cooperative activities with the Farm Security Administration in the 37 States included the providing of subject-matter bulletins and circulars, assisting with district and State training schools for home management supervisors, joint conferences at regular intervals, inviting home management supervisors to attend county demonstration meetings and encouraging farm women and girls in farm security families to attend community demonstrations and to become members of home demonstration clubs and 4-H clubs.

Cooperation with State health departments included child health clinics sponsored by home demonstration clubs, cooperative health programs, the services of health nurses at 4-H and farm women's camps, State-wide cooperative nutrition programs in which one county is used as a demonstration county, the utilization of factual material from the State health departments, and the dissemination of material through the nurses to homemakers.

Activities with the Rural Electrification Administration in these 37 States were training schools for home demonstration agents conducted by REA specialists, demonstration schools at project location points for those on REA lines and others interested, joint staff conferences, and educational programs for which Extension assumes the responsibility.

According to the questionnaires, the press is one of the most powerful means of extending the home demonstration program. Stories of demonstrators, local club and county achievements, along with publicity given to coming extension events, have all furthered the extension program. Demonstrators and local club and county reporters have provided news articles for local papers. Reporters' training schools have been a means of improving the work of local club and county reporters.

Among the other means used to further the program, the 37 States all reported regular use of the radio, achievement tours, exhibits, and home visits. The home visit especially seemed to be an essential part of the well-rounded demonstration program and afforded some of the most valuable contacts made. The committee report suggested that the home demonstration agent, supervisors, and specialist make definite plans for home visits.

The committee was composed of Norma Brumbaugh, Oklahoma, chairman; Ruth Cessna, Iowa; Margaret Martin, South Carolina; Minnie Mae Grubbs, Texas; and Eulalia B. Alger, California.

More well-trained home demonstration agents are needed to extend the influence of home demonstration work. Two Virginia agents in training make a home visit with the agent of Montgomery County.





# A 4-H Leader for 22 Years

**ELIZABETH F. HOPKINS, Associate County Club Agent, Middlesex County, Mass.**

■ Twenty-two years as a 4-H Club leader is the record of Mrs. Gertrude Leighton, home economics teacher in the Southern Junior High School, Somerville, Mass. Starting the canning project with a group of 16 boys and girls, Mrs. Leighton began club work in 1917. A few jars of string beans canned by that first club 22 years ago are still in possession of the leader; and, although the bales on the jars have rusted, the products are perfect in color and apparently in condition.

Following the canning club, Mrs. Leighton led a bread club for 6 years. After the bread club, she organized the food project which continued from 1927 through 1939. Mrs. Leighton carried on her work alone until last year when she was assisted by Mabel Eddy, a 4-H Club leader of 7 years' experience.

## *Keeps Accurate Records*

Mrs. Leighton has carefully saved records of all meetings, including attendance and lists of club officers, of each of her 22 clubs. She takes considerable pride in having 21 banner clubs—a truly fine record, for a banner club means 100 percent completion. The clubs have averaged a membership of approximately 20 girls each year. Records show that 2 girls continued in the club for 9 consecutive years. Club meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays after school. Never has she missed an appointment with her club. She sometimes leaves home at 6:30 in the morning to attend special 4-H Club events, such as a rally or round-up for camp.

## *Keeps Interest in Ex-Club Members*

This indefatigable leader maintains a kindly and intimate interest in each individual club member. She delights in telling of the present successes of her girls as nurses, dietitians, teachers, and homemakers. Her face radiates pleasure in relating such incidences pertaining to her various clubs as the following: When her first club went to Concord on April 19, 1917, to put flowers on the grave of the unknown soldier; how she trained girls to take part in the 4-H program at Camp Vail, Eastern States Exposition, Springfield; how one of her members won first prize in the bread-making contest at Brockton Fair; and how only this last year two girls from her club entered the county contest trying out for the trip to the World's Poultry Congress in Cleveland, with their demonstration on Use of Poultry Products. Later, this team won a blue ribbon in the Massachusetts State contest with their demonstration, Preparing the Luncheon Tray for an Invalid.

It was a genuine satisfaction when a large

number of alumnae made a special effort to return for the 1939 achievement-day program of the 4-H Club. Several former club members took part in the program, thanking Mrs. Leighton publicly for the help given them by her through their 4-H Club work. State Leader George L. Farley was also present and complimented Mrs. Leighton on her enduring

# Alabama Curb Markets Increase Income

**ETNA McGAUGH, State Home Demonstration Agent, Alabama**

■ Every day is pay day for the farm family who lives at home. Farm families in Alabama are realizing this fact and are planting year-round gardens; canning according to a budget, and producing ample poultry, dairy products, and meat for home use. In addition, surpluses are being converted into cash by marketing at the 16 curb markets located throughout the State. In June alone farm families realized \$40,589.17 for the surplus products from the garden, orchard, dairy, and poultry flock.

In Roanoke, Ala., in Randolph County, through the cooperation of the Lions Club and other groups, a \$250 curb market was constructed for the use of local farmers. The cooperation of both urban and rural groups has resulted in developing a fine outlet for surplus farm products for the rural people, as well as providing a high standard product for the Roanoke consumer.

Mrs. Warren Harlin, Roanoke, Ala., route 2, another member of the curb-market group in Randolph County, says: "Cotton may be king of the South's farms, but meat is the king of the Harlin's farm. Why shouldn't it be? It pays for shoes, clothes, and fees for three high-school girls. The wage hand depends on it for his pay, and even the old kitchen shines because of the meat sold at the curb market." Mrs. Harlin sells sliced ham, bacon, ribs, fresh sausage, and dressed poultry. Although the majority of her sales are from meat products, fresh vegetables are responsible for a part of the \$332.31 sales made in about a year's time.

And market sales are building a home for Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Dunn, Northport, Ala. Mrs. Dunn sells her products in the Tuscaloosa curb market. She finds that cut flowers along with her surplus vegetables have been the best money maker for her. This spring her flower sales have brought in about \$170.35. As her sales accumulate, she is drawing nearer

patience and enthusiasm throughout the years.

Upon completion of her twentieth year of leadership, in recognition of her splendid work, the Middlesex County Extension Service presented her with a leadership pin studded with emeralds and pearls, the first to be presented in Massachusetts. Mrs. Leighton regards this as one of her most cherished possessions.

This year, at the retirement age of 70 years, Mrs. Leighton is resigning her position as teacher in the Somerville School. However, she will not abandon active life. She has applied for admission to the graduate school of Harvard University as a candidate for her master's degree.

her ambition to build a new home on a recently purchased farm.

The Montgomery County curb market has grown from 12 market tables on the sidewalk into a big business, occupying a city lot with a well-equipped market which meets regulations as to sanitation and order. The 147 farm families who sell on this market now conduct a modern efficient business that cannot be compared to its beginning in 1927 when only 12 farmers were selling on the market. The products are as varied as the interests of the farm people. Cut flowers of all kinds, garden products, fresh eggs and poultry, fruits, handicrafts, cakes, breads, butter, nuts, watermelons, all are to be found at the curb market. These curb-market sellers have found that products of a good quality sell themselves. A better understanding of both rural and urban problems has resulted from the fine associations with city and country people. More and more the farm women who are availing themselves of the opportunity to use the curb-market program in the State are saying, as Secretary Wallace has said, that "the cooperative way of life must prevail."

Many farm families' lives have been enriched and their standard of living improved through the opportunity to sell, on a curb market, products which otherwise would have been lost because no market was available.

## Beauty by the Roadside

The Ingalls Home Demonstration Club in Payne County, Okla., has taken for its community project the planting of 1 mile of county roadside to redbud—not the seeds but sizable shrubs which the women will dig from their own woods and pastures. The plan is to plant the shrubs every 20 feet and stagger the lines so that the beholder will see a blossoming tree every 10 feet along the highway.



## Do You Know . . .

### Mrs. Minnie B. Church

Home Demonstration Agent of Carter County, Okla.

■ The spotlight of "achievement" was diverted from homemaker to home agent when some 500 citizens of Carter County, Okla., attending the farm women's achievement program paid tribute to Mrs. Minnie B. Church, the occasion marking the twenty-first anniversary of her home demonstration work in the county. Mrs. Church had worked with the farm women's and 4-H Clubs, the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce, and the retail merchants' association in planning this annual achievement day, but the personal tribute came as a complete surprise. She was presented with the Epsilon Sigma Phi pin representing 20 years of extension work, and she received flowers from the 4-H Clubs. Appreciation of her work as Carter County's first and only home agent was expressed by prominent citizens; E. E. Scholl, State director of extension; members of the farm and home county councils; and Agricultural Agent H. L. Duncan, who dedicated his annual report to her.

"Fundamentally, Mrs. Church and her work occupy a place that cannot be over-emphasized, nor can its true worth ever be fully appreciated," commented John F. Easley, a local citizen. "She has stopped, to no small degree, hand-to-mouth living in this county—she has filled cellars with food. She has taught the town folk to appreciate rural women and to see with them, eye to eye, the problems that are jointly rural and urban. \* \* \* Out of her efforts, too, have come better houses for tenant farmers, the tenant farmers have become better tenants, and the landowners have become better landlords. \* \* \* Flowers bloom in yards; curtains brighten windows once drab and dull; farm women and girls are better dressed, better informed, and better qualified to do their work because of the conscientious efforts of this remarkable woman who, almost single-handed, has revolutionized farm conditions in 21 active years. She has combined the art of better living on the farm with better earning power, and she has become an inspiration to hundreds of girls and women in agricultural districts. Out of her work has come a new era in farming—a more prosperous and economically sound era."

In thanking the people, Mrs. Church reminisced on the early days of her extension career which began in Carter County in December 1917. During the first 3 months of her extension work, before getting her own automobile, she rode around with the superin-

tendent of schools. Roads were bad, and travel was slow. Cotton was one of the outstanding crops, and the price was good. Whole families often worked in the fields, and Mrs. Church visited her 4-H girls in the cotton patches as often as in their homes. By 1918, 10 4-H Clubs were organized with approximately 150 members. The next year, through the 4-H Clubs and the cooperation of rural teachers, the farm women's clubs were organized. Mrs. Church has worked with both white and Negro rural people, and by 1938 she had organized 31 home demonstration clubs with 513 members and 33 4-H Clubs with an enrollment of 1,240 boys and girls.

"Today Carter County no longer depends on cotton alone," said Mrs. Church. "It is

outstanding in dairy and beef cattle and has more than doubled its sheep raising. It has fine pastures, wheat, oats, and corn. No county in the State has better roads than Carter County. The number of schools has increased to 44 rural and consolidated schools in which 26 of the teachers are former 4-H boys and girls. Other 4-H Club members have become county attorney, county clerk, doctor, and banker; and the extension office secretary is a former 4-H girl. Today the boys and girls are kept in school most of the 9-month school term, and the homemakers have, for the most part, given up their field chores.

"All during the depression and severe droughts the farm women's clubs have worked together. The members have been loyal to one another and to extension work. They have studied gardening and canning, and, by careful meal planning, most of them have enough canned foods to carry them through the winter. Their clothing activities have likewise resulted in better arranged homes. Kitchen-improvement work has had the cooperation of the farm men. The lack of cash and living on rented farms have been drawbacks, but it is marvelous to see what has been done to save steps and time."

### North Carolina Has Active Cotton Program

■ An aggressive program, with its goal the better harvesting, handling, and ginning of cotton, has been launched in 20 North Carolina counties, according to J. C. Ferguson, extension cotton-ginning specialist.

More than 70 community meetings have been held in cooperation with county farm agents, with an unusually good attendance. In Union County, where a great deal of one-variety community work is carried on, more than 400 farmers and ginnermen were present for a series of meetings.

The cooperation necessary between the farmer and the ginner in producing a better grade of cotton is emphasized. To impress quality, United States Department of Agriculture standards are shown. Then the difference in value between grades is pointed out, as well as the reasons for these differences.

Through the use of a small model gin, actual samples of gin work are produced at these meetings. First, those present are shown a sample of dry cotton properly ginned. Next, a sample of dry cotton is ginned with a fast-feeding roll or with a tight roll. Finally, a sample of damp cotton is roughly ginned.

In addition to conducting the meetings, Mr. Ferguson, at the request of a number of ginnermen, has also examined gins and checked the condition of saws, ribs, brushes, air-blast pressures, and other details. Wherever possible,

he has aided the ginnermen in making improvements in their equipment.

Sixty-five cotton-growing communities in North Carolina have been organized into one-variety associations to improve the production of the crop and to obtain the free classing service and market-news information offered by the United States Department of Agriculture. J. A. Shanklin, extension cotton specialist, and Ralph Raper, his assistant, have helped county agricultural agents to organize the one-variety associations.

Twenty-four counties have one-variety associations this year, and nearly 3,000 farmers are enrolled with agreements to grow and market a single standard improved variety of cotton in each community. They have about 45,000 acres of cotton planted, and agreements have been signed with 85 ginnermen to set aside certain days for the ginning of one-variety cotton exclusively.

The one-variety community program was launched in North Carolina last year, but, because of the late start (after Congress passed the enabling act), only 15 communities were organized, and only 7 qualified for the free classing and market-news service. However, they proved effective by having 93 percent of their cotton classed middling or better; whereas in the Piedmont area, where the 7 associations were located, only 62 percent of the cotton grown outside one-variety associations graded middling or better.



# Making and Using Film Strips

**R. B. RANKIN, County Agent, Adair County, Ky.**

■ We have never had much difficulty in getting a large number of demonstrations of improved farm practices established, but it has always been difficult to get a large number of persons to see the demonstrations when they were at their best. Field meetings and farm tours help, although sometimes attendance at these events is disappointing; and usually most of those attending are the more progressive farmers who may already be somewhat familiar with the demonstration or practice. So, in order to present the results of extension work to many who otherwise might never see or hear of them and yet many of whom might need such information most, we decided to record the results on film strips. Accordingly, we have made and used film strips with more or less success in Metcalfe and Adair Counties during the last 2 years.

## *Equipment Used*

The cost of equipment, including candid camera, projector, and four film strips completed ready for projection, approached \$50. No public funds were available for the purchase of our equipment, so we purchased it with our personal funds. Thus we have the exclusive use of it.

In making a film strip, we use a candid camera which cost \$12.50. We have used usually a 35-millimeter Reversible Superpan film which is sufficient for 36 scenes. Most of our best pictures have been made in clear sunlight with a lens setting of  $f:6.3$  and a shutter speed of one one-hundredth of a second, as recommended by the camera manufacturer. No tripod or exposure meter has been used, although we might have done better if they had been used. However, we simply loaded the camera and shot the pictures, following manufacturer's instructions on lens settings, and most usually we have obtained effective pictures. In other words, no one needs to be any sort of photographic technician to make good film strips. When exposures are completed on the film mentioned above and it is processed in the manufacturer's laboratories, it is ready for projection. No prints can be made from this special film.

The projector used cost about \$35 and can be used for either film strip or slides. Current from either a 110-volt line or a 6-volt automobile battery is used by changing bulbs. We have never cut up film strips to make slides, although we could do so. On the other hand, we have made all scenes on a particular strip relate to a certain subject, such as 4-H Club work, for instance. Although an expensive screen might be desirable, we have found the

use of a sheet or cheap white window shade very satisfactory.

Since beginning this work in the summer of 1938, we have completed and used six film strips and have a seventh nearly completed. In Metcalfe County, strips were made on the subjects of winter cover crops, 4-H Club work, corn and tobacco, and livestock and poultry. In Adair County during 1939, strips have been made on the subjects of winter cover crops and 4-H Club work, and another is nearly completed on tobacco and corn. If public interest continues, we plan to make three or four strips each year on subjects of most importance to the county.

## *Attendance Increased*

Average attendance at meetings where it is known that these pictures are to be shown has been much better than in many other types of meetings. We have occasionally had an attendance of 100 or more persons to see these pictures at country schools, and the attendance is seldom less than 40 or 50. Whether good attendance will continue after the novelty wears off remains to be seen. Sometimes meetings are announced by circular letters, but more often they are announced to the school children in the morning preceding the evening meeting. All classes of persons in the community are attracted, including old and young, rich and poor, thus refuting to some extent the common contention that extension work often reaches only a select group. Explanation and discussion of the pictures are of course necessary but are kept as brief as possible to make the points. The exhibition and explanation seldom exceeds 45 minutes. Persons attending usually see pictures of practices carried out by farmers they know, and this, we believe, is one of the strong points of the locally made film strip. The observer is bound to admit that it can be done in his own county.

## *Strengthens the Program*

The use of film strips made last year in the adjoining county of Metcalfe has undoubtedly been of great benefit in getting a strong extension program organized and carried out in Adair County this year. Let us take the education of the farmers on hybrid corn, for example. Strange as it may seem to extension workers in the Corn Belt, prior to 1939 not more than 10 acres of hybrid corn had ever been planted in Adair County, although the total corn acreage of the county is about 27,-

000 acres. The breeding of hybrid seed corn was a deep mystery. This year, several hundred acres were planted with hybrid seed in all sections, and nine men have actually produced hybrid seed in isolated breeding plots for planting the main crop in 1940. In addition, we are certain that the use of the 4-H Club film strip helped greatly in organizing and carrying through a strong club program in a county where very little club work had been attempted in recent years.

We have not used pictures to supplant other extension methods, as we continue the others just the same. As far as we have gone, however, we believe that pictures, and particularly those showing local scenes, are an effective addition to other methods.

## **Circular Letters Come on Wallpaper**

Get life and color into your circular letters if you have an idea that you want to reach people, the New Hampshire Agricultural Extension Service tells its workers. Myrtis Beecher, Hillsboro County home demonstration agent, got results when she sent a notice to her women regarding a wallpaper-hanging demonstration which she had arranged for them in one of the larger stores in Manchester—New Hampshire's biggest city. Miss Beecher tells how she did it:

"After wondering all winter how to handle this meeting, it finally occurred to me that a certain store in Manchester would doubtless put on a demonstration for me; so I contacted the store through the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and found it very willing to cooperate. The assistant manager of the store remarked that we did much more to educate our rural women in good consumer buying than was done for the city women.

"When I got back to the office and started to compose a letter about the meeting, it occurred to me that it might be nice to use wallpaper for our letter. The head of the wallpaper department of the Manchester store offered to furnish the necessary paper. I got 18 double rolls and took them to the printer to be cut. He had difficulty cutting the paper because it was rolled. He finally got it cut into 11-inch strips but did such a jagged job cutting the strips in two that he finally gave up. Our stenographer borrowed an iron, ironed every piece, and cut it herself on our cutting board—1,300 pieces all of which then had to be fed through the mimeograph machine by hand. Although too much trouble to do very often, these circular letters certainly brought results."



# County Agent at Large

■ Out in Montana where easterners still believe that cowpunchers wear six-shooters, that Indians make raids on settlers, and that it is altogether too rough for county agents, they do have county agents; and at least one of the present crop has gone ultra-modern.

Although he can swing a mean lariat and top a sunfishing "bronk," he nevertheless is doing county agent work in the latest means of conveyance—a modern auto trailer. He is A. L. White, former county agent for Glacier County and national traveler the trailer way. Now, tired of seeing new places, he has turned back to county agent work but is specializing in irrigation engineering with the entire State for his field.

He makes all his jumps by trailer and takes Mrs. White along. His home is wherever he stops; and he has had his temporary home in areas that rival the Alps in majesty, on Indian reservations, on the bleak prairie, and in rich valleys. Everywhere he has traveled he has left his imprint in the form of dams, ditches, laterals, and many of the other visible forms by which water is collected or diverted to cropland.

He has had for next-door neighbors yelping coyotes, grizzly and brown bears, an occasional mountain lion, bobcats, and the lowly prairie dog. While he is out surveying, these animals provide company for Mrs. White. In the event her husband is late, she switches off the radio and listens to the animal chorus—and likes it.

These are a few of the compensations for living the life of a nomad. He also does not have to make out an expense account, for he is furnishing his own "keep," but he makes out all the other reports which county agents commonly make.

The compensations are not all personal, for the trailer house is so convenient that he actually saves time for the Montana Extension Service, Montana farmers, and ranchers. There are no long trips back to the county seat every night, a journey which may be as much as 150 miles in Montana. When he finishes his work for the day, he is practically home and ready to sit down to a tasteful meal.

What Mr. White does can best be gleaned from his weekly report. Here is a typical day: Surveyed four fields for Jack Arnold, involving 75 acres for flood irrigation, 20 acres gravity, and 15 acres pump. Here is another: Checked route for main ditch 6,600 feet long to take water out of Hanging Woman Creek; surveyed laterals on 15 acres and made preliminary survey for Bones Brothers.

Al, Mrs. White, and the trailer are the most welcome visitors a county agent can receive, after the budget is signed. Every Montana county agent is a year or more behind in filling requests for engineering assistance. So when Al lands in a county, the first piece of paper he receives is a list of jobs to do.

The loans will be made available to producers in California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Michigan, but may be limited to counties where the acreage of Austrian winter peas and hairy vetch for 1940 harvest is within the maximum approved for the county by the AAA.

Producers who comply with their 1940 wheat and total soil-depleting acreage allotments will be eligible for loans on Austrian winter pea and hairy vetch seed produced in 1940.

## Professional Improvement

Wendell Holman, Boone County agent with headquarters at Columbia, is the first county agent to receive a master of arts degree in the field of agricultural extension work under the plan developed 2 years ago by the University of Missouri, according to J. W. Burch, director of the Missouri Extension Service. Under this plan Missouri extension workers enrolling in



Wendell Holman (left) and Ray S. Graham (right)

courses that will better equip them for their work can earn a master of arts degree.

The University of Missouri is the first institution in the United States to inaugurate such a plan.

Mr. Holman is one of the 17 county extension workers that attended summer school at the University this summer. These workers include 15 county agents and 1 home demonstration agent from Missouri and 1 county agent from North Carolina.

Ray S. Graham, Hickory County extension agent with headquarters at Hermitage, was in attendance at summer school and acquired a master of education degree.

## New Negro Agents

Eleven new Negro county agricultural and home demonstration agents and a full-time secretary to handle central office correspondence at Tuskegee Institute have been added to the Negro extension staff in Alabama.

■ Illinois dedicated a new 4-H Club building on the State fair grounds in Springfield on August 12; and Minnesota dedicated a new 4-H building during the State fair at St. Paul.

## Winter Legume Seed Needed

■ A program for encouraging increased production of Austrian winter pea and hairy vetch seed in order to make possible greater plantings of winter cover crops in South-eastern States has been undertaken by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. To increase production, the seed will be furnished under the agricultural conservation program to farmers in Oregon and other Northwestern States where expansion in acreage of these seed crops is possible. Most of the seed planted in the Southeastern States is normally raised in the Northwest. Loans will be available next year on Austrian winter pea and hairy vetch seed produced in 1940.

Awards for the purchase of 2 million pounds of Austrian winter pea seed and 300,000 pounds of hairy vetch seed have already been made. The seed will be made available to producers of winter legume seed in lieu of payments under the 1939 agricul-

tural conservation program. This seed will be available only for planting acreage in excess of that planted for harvest in 1939.

The loan program will make it possible for producers to expand their acreage with confidence that prices will not fall to unreasonable levels. The basic loan rate will be 3 cents a pound for Austrian winter peas and 7½ cents a pound for hairy vetch, cleaned, treated, and bagged.

The loan program, which has been approved by the President, will be administered by the Commodity Credit Corporation and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Increased acreage in the winter cover crop seed-producing areas is expected to make available more adequate quantities of seed for the Southeast. Also, any seed taken over by the Commodity Credit Corporation in liquidation of loans will be transferred to the AAA for distribution as grants of aid under the agricultural conservation program.





R. H. Lemmon.



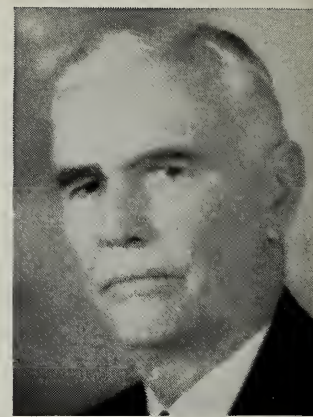
Lella Reed Gaddis.



J. C. Kendall.



Lonny I. Landrum.



A. J. Cotton.

## Who's Who Among the First Agents

■ **R. H. LEMMON**, county agent, Fairfield County, S. C., entered the Extension Service March 16, 1912. From the beginning of his work he has advocated a safe and sane system of farming, keeping in mind the maintaining and building of the soil and trying to increase the farmers' net income.

He has always been a great believer in 4-H Club work, and the work that has been done by club members in Fairfield County has been of great economic value. He has had a calf-club exhibit at the State fair each year since this feature was added to the fair. An annual county 4-H Club livestock show has been held since 1926, and last year the first county 4-H Beef Club sale in the State was held in Fairfield County. All the foregoing has contributed greatly to the livestock development in the county.

Rapid progress has been made in raising livestock to increase the cash income of the farmers. Today there are 50 purebred beef-type bulls in the county and the beef-type calf crop is the largest on record. The beef-type bulls are bred to native cows, and the farmers sell the calves when they reach the age of 6 to 8 months at prices ranging from \$20 to \$40 each.

He was instrumental in helping to locate a CCC camp in the county and assisted in organizing a county soil-conservation association. About 25 percent of the cropland in his county is now devoted to small-grain and winter cover crops which are followed by soil-building crops such as cowpeas, velvet beans, lespedeza, and Crotalaria. Seeing the need of a good soil-building crop and a fall pasture for livestock, he started farmers planting the valuable crop of velvet beans 20 years ago, and today Fairfield County probably has the largest acreage planted to velvet beans of any Piedmont county in the State. Approximately 100,000 pounds of lespedeza seed will be planted by Fairfield County farmers this year.

■ **LELLA REED GADDIS**, State leader of home economics and home demonstration agents in Indiana, began work 25 years ago when there were 75 home-economics organizations in the State, which held monthly meetings for study of subjects relating to the home school and country life. Lectures and demonstrations of foods, textiles, home decoration, and sanitation were attended by 3,131 women. In response to requests from the women specialists, 2-day demonstrations were held in 31 different places, reaching more than 2,951 persons. These organizations were a direct result of farmers' institute work and short courses, the programs necessarily being of a miscellaneous nature.

The first piece of work using local leadership on which so much of the work is based today was that of the paper dress form. Two women were trained to make the form and then to assist other women. From this beginning, home demonstration work in Indiana has been developed on the group basis until last year 2,913 women served as local leaders in the various projects. Miss Gaddis now directs the work of 45 home demonstration agents and one assistant agent to help in county and group program planning.

■ **JOHN C. KENDALL** has a record with few parallels in the country. He has been director of the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station for 29 years, and for 28 years he has also been director of the Cooperative Extension Service in that State.

Under his direction the agricultural experiment station has doubled the number of research departments, and the Extension Service of the State has grown from a system that involved only occasional lectures and farmers' institutes to a highly developed organization that reaches rural men, women, and young people in practically every community in the State. New Hampshire was the first State in the country to employ an agricultural agent, a

home demonstration agent, and a 4-H Club agent in every county; and the county organization is supplemented by State specialists in 15 subjects.

He was asked to start the first dairy short course at North Carolina State College. For several years thereafter he had charge of the dairy department at that institution. In 1907 he was appointed State Dairy Commissioner of Kansas, and the following year he took charge of the dairy and poultry departments at the Kansas State Agricultural College. In 1910 he was called back to New Hampshire as director of the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station, and in 1911 he was also made director of the Extension Service. He has held both of these positions ever since; but on July 1, 1939, he gave up experiment station work to devote full time to an expanded extension program which will include all extension work of the university.

In the summer of 1935, the various State and county organizations joined in a parade 2 miles long on the occasion of farmers' and homemakers' week at Durham in celebration of Director Kendall's 25 years as head of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

Director Kendall has served at various times as chairman and secretary of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

■ **LONNY I. LANDRUM**, State home demonstration agent, South Carolina, entered extension work as home agent in November 1914 in Clay County, Fla. In 1923 she began work in South Carolina, first as assistant State agent and later in the same year as State agent.

During her administration the development of county councils of farm women and local leadership for both girls and women have shown great growth. Another thing has been the growth of cooperation between men and



women in carrying out extension programs. New steps that have been introduced in the home demonstration program since she has been State agent are club work for women, for which certificates are given; introduction of cultural projects; beautification of home and public grounds; music; picture study; and recreation.

■ A. J. COTTON is now county agent emeritus of Burnet County, Tex. He began county agent work in Burnet County in 1911 and has served that county since that time, with the exception of 7 years during which time he was county agent in Llano County.

Mr. Cotton conducted his work primarily through community organizations and organizations of boys' 4-H Clubs. Practically every rural school has had a well-organized 4-H Club each year, and now Mr. Cotton

is writing the history of all club boys who have worked under his supervision since 1911. The primary purpose of this history of club work in Burnet County is to determine the extent of the effect of county agent work among club boys in Burnet County upon their individual lives and upon community life.

You can drive through Burnet County on any highway and see well-terraced farms with soil-building crops such as cowpeas and other legumes planted in alternate rows with corn and grain sorghums on practically every farm. The flocks of purebred sheep and goats and other improved livestock can be observed by anyone.

Regular meetings of farmers all over the county at their rural schoolhouses for the purpose of discussing their farm problems and for social purposes is another outstanding result of Mr. Cotton's activities.

## 4-H Forest Rangers Prevent Fires

■ As a reward for superior service to their towns and State during the spring forest-fire season, 20 of New Hampshire's best 4-H forest rangers and their leaders were given a free educational tour of Boston and vicinity.

The three best ranger clubs in the State were selected, and five members and their leaders were chosen to represent each winning club. Five other high-ranking rangers, chosen from the State at large, also made the trip.

Selected as the champion ranger club of the State was the Junior Fire Warden Club, of Salem. The 54 members of this ranger group, led by John Randall, of Salem Depot, discovered 8 fires, saved the fire department 7 runs, and reported nearly 60 motorists for throwing lighted cigarettes out of cars. In 1 week the boys did a total of 204 hours of patrol duty. At their regular meetings they invited a doctor to talk on first aid for burns, a State trooper to tell them about traffic direction in case of a big fire, a fire warden to discuss fire prevention and suppression, and members of the local fire department to give a demonstration of lifesaving with an inhalator. After every meeting the boys practiced artificial respiration.

The 4-H Forest Ranger Club of Hudson was named second-best ranger club in the State. The most outstanding work done by this group was the erection of a fire tower on the Pelham Road. The lookout tower is 30 feet high and overlooks a section of the town not covered by the State fire tower. Several of the members have helped to clean up more than 15 acres of blown-down timber. Meetings were held regularly, and speakers were invited to discuss forest-fire prevention and

control. Mrs. Nettie Fuller served as leader of this club. She was assisted by Sidney Baker, town fire warden.

Third-highest ranger club in New Hampshire was the Happy Warriors 4-H Club of East Unity. In addition to the regular meetings in charge of the club leader, Stanley Miller, of East Unity, club members also worked hard at clearing up slash and down timber. One boy, working with his father, cut 15,000 feet of blown-down timber. Two other members worked over an area of 25 acres, thinning out and salvaging 6,000 feet of timber and 10 cords of firewood.

## 4-H Cotton Pageant

A pageant, planned and written by E. D. Ray, home demonstration agent in Bullock County, Ala., and presented by the Negro 4-H Club girls, effectively told the story of cotton, with stage effects, dialog, Negro spirituals, and demonstrations.

One of the impressive demonstrations was the making of a bed by two girls who estimated the pounds of cotton used in making each article for the bed. First, the mattress, which was made by an adult club member, was shown to contain 50 pounds of cotton; then, in succession, sheets, quilts, the spread, pillows, and pillowcases were shown and their cotton weights given. This demonstration closed with an estimate that 3,000 bales of cotton could be used to provide bed articles alone for the families of Bullock County.

The closing feature was a style review showing cotton dresses for all purposes, from aprons to wedding outfits made with cotton lace. All dresses in the review were made by the 4-H Club girls.

## Receives Certificate of 4-H Achievement

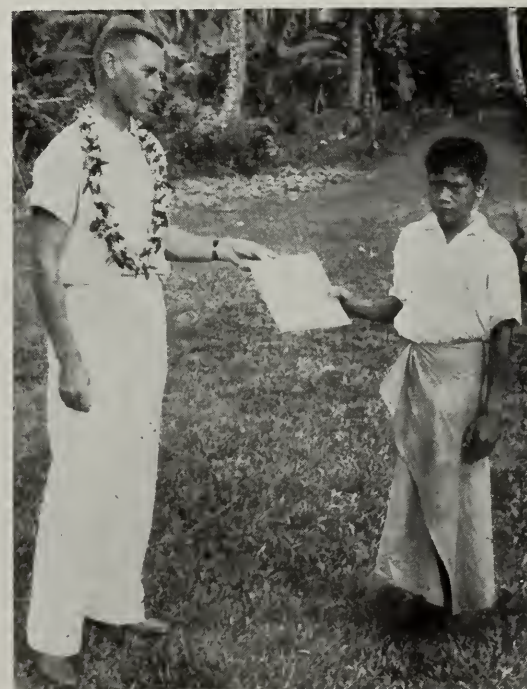
José, president of the Ilili 4-H Club, American Samoa, receives his certificate of achievement from Director H. H. Warner, of Hawaii. The village of Ilili is about 4 miles from Pago Pago, on the island of Tutuila in American Samoa. The 4-H Club is under the leadership of Suiava Utu, a school teacher, and has 24 members. This club was organized shortly after Director Warner's first visit to Samoa in 1937 when he conferred with the heads of the Educational Department, directed by the United States Navy which administers the governmental affairs of that island.

Early in June of this year, on his second visit to Samoa, Director Warner visited the club's final meeting for the school year, and presented José, the president of the club, with a certificate of achievement for the fine work accomplished in the year's program.

Village improvement has been the principal project during the past year. The club members have fenced in pig lots, destroyed mosquito-breeding places, cared for the fresh-water supply, trapped rats, and caught and destroyed a considerable number of coconut beetles, which constitute the most serious menace to the principal crop grown.

The club members were pleased to be recognized in this way by the Agricultural Extension Service in far-away Hawaii, some 2,100 miles north and east of Samoa, and gave Director Warner samples of their hand work, Samoan mats, shell leis, and other articles.

There is another 4-H Club in American Samoa at the village of Fagasa, and the educational leaders are planning to expand the program to other districts on the island.





# Farmers Plant 6 Million Trees

■ Farmers in 30 States planted more than 6 million trees in windbreaks and shelterbelts last year, under the State-Federal cooperation provided in the Clarke-McNary law, according to reports received by the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Of 55,359,000 trees planted, percentages in the various States used for windbreaks ranged from 1 percent in such States as Florida, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and New York to 50 percent in Oregon and 100 percent in Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, and the Dakotas.

Forty-nine percent of the 2,609,000 trees planted by farmers in Wisconsin were used in shelterbelts and windbreaks. The percentage of trees planted in windbreaks in Hawaii was 45 and in Puerto Rico, 46.

The Clarke-McNary plantings of windbreaks are in addition to those made in the Prairie-Plains under the Prairie States forestry project where 10,800 miles of field windbreaks have been established on more than 18,000 farms since 1935.

Trees used in the Clarke-McNary plantings included practically all species of commercial value, such as jack, red, Austrian, Scotch, loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, and slash pine; Norway, blue, red, and white spruce; balsam and Douglas fir; larch; red and white cedar;

hemlock; arborvitae; black and honey locust; white and green ash; tulip or yellow poplar; red and white oak; pecan; cherry; red gum; red and sugar maple; black walnut; catalpa; bald cypress; Osage-orange; elm; hackberry; Kentucky coffee tree; Russian mulberry and olive; Siberian pea tree; and cottonwood.

The windbreaks are used to protect crops and soils, livestock, farm buildings, and gardens from damaging winds. Farmers report a saving of fuel in houses sheltered by trees and a saving in feed when windbreaks are used around feed lots.

The Clarke-McNary law, passed in 1924, provides for the allotment of Federal funds to States matching such appropriations for carrying on fire-protection work in forests and for furnishing forest-tree seedlings to farmers. The tree distribution is made by the State forestry agencies, and the trees are used only for forest planting on farms. Expenditures by the Federal Government last year in this program were \$75,286.33 and by the States \$306,910.33. States distribute the trees at cost or less to encourage farm forestry. The States spent an additional \$363,135.25 on outside projects which include free distribution of trees for planting by community forests, 4-H Clubs, schools, and similar organizations.

## New Film Strips Ready

■ The following film strips have been completed by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the Bureaus of Agricultural Engineering, Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Home Economics, and the Soil Conservation Service. The film strips may be purchased at the prices indicated from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D. C., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied upon request to the Extension Service.

Series 414. *Home Demonstration Work Serves the Young Homemaker.*—Illustrates the educational assistance which home demonstration work is giving to young rural homemakers in planning for the farm and home and in carrying out needed tasks. 62 frames, 55 cents.

Series 555. *Homemaking in Colonial Days.*—Depicts homemaking equipment in colonial days as contrasted with that on the modern farm. 64 frames, 55 cents.

Series 559. *Establishment and Maintenance of Grassed Waterways.*—Designed to illustrate the value and methods of establishing grassed waterways on cropland. It shows how natural drainageways may be utilized and

erosion hazards eliminated by turning such eroded areas into protected waterways for the safe handling of excess run-off. 29 frames, 50 cents.

Series 560. *Cooking Poultry—Young Birds.* Illustrates the principles of cooking young chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, and squabs. 51 frames, 55 cents.

Series 561. *Cooking Poultry—Older Birds.*—Illustrates the principles of cooking older chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, and guineas. 38 frames, 50 cents.

Series 563. *Wheat Production in the United States.*—Illustrates modern methods of producing, harvesting, and marketing the wheat crop. It also covers the important problems of control of plant diseases that affect the wheat crop. 69 frames, 60 cents.

Series 564. *Barberries in Grain Areas—Their Spread, Damage, and Eradication.*—Illustrates the nature and scope of the barberry eradication program in the North Central States. 41 frames, 50 cents.

Series 565. *Insured Harvests.*—Points out the hazards to which the wheat farmer is constantly subjected, and how he now may protect himself from disastrous wheat crop failure through all-risk Federal crop insurance. 48 frames, 50 cents.

## Tree-Seedling Contest

The Georgia Extension Service and the State division of forestry have joined hands in a movement to encourage farmers to plant forest-tree seedlings.

The county agent placing applications for the greatest number of seedlings will receive 10,000 forest seedlings free, and the agent who sends in the greatest number of orders, regardless of size, also will be awarded 10,000 seedlings.

The prize seedlings will be turned over to winning county agents for use in 4-H Club forestry projects. They will be distributed to the county 4-H members on the basis of work done in forestry and wildlife projects.

The contest closes November 30.

## 4-H Egg Marketing

The 10 district winners in the Georgia 4-H Club egg-marketing leadership contest took part in a State contest during the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta, October 1 to 8. The State winner was awarded a free trip to the World's Fair in New York.

Each district winner set up a complete marketing exhibit and gave individual demonstrations on marketing eggs. In their exhibits they presented demonstrations on candling, grading, and marketing eggs. They also brought out some of the important marketing problems in connection with marketing eggs in their respective communities.

## "Light up Your Meals"...

was the title of a popular exhibit at the farm festival, Grand Rapids, Mich., reports Estelle Nelson, home demonstration agent, Branch County. The foods needed by the body for pep, growth, heat, and energy were lighted up as the spectator pushed a button opposite the name of each food class. The exhibit was arranged by a committee of extension club members in nutrition with the assistance of local leaders in nutrition and the State nutrition specialist.

## ON THE CALENDAR

Fifty-third Annual Convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Washington, D. C., November 14-16.  
Convention of National Grange, Peoria, Ill., November 15-23.

American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America, New Orleans, La., November 22-24.

International Livestock Exposition, Chicago, Ill., December 2-9.

National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill., December 2-9.

Twentieth Annual Meeting of American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago, Ill., December 4-8.

AAA Cotton Referendum, December 9.



## Goal for Farm Life

The kind of life I should like to see made possible for farm families in our county through efficient agricultural production could be well expressed in one word—"contentment." Contentment brought about by the knowledge that if a farmer studies consumer demands, produces efficiently, and markets wisely, he will not be subject to such sharp price fluctuations that he will be forced to sell his produce far below the actual cost of production. Content in the assurance that through efficient agricultural production he will be able to provide his children with all the recreational, educational, and cultural advantages available to city children. And, finally, contentment in the knowledge that through good management and efficient production he can expect a degree of security for his family that will result in the supreme satisfaction of having his boys eager to maintain the family home and traditions and "carry on" the farm business into which he has put a lifetime of planning and work and hope for the future.—*Henry R. Shoemaker, county agent, Frederick County, Md.*

## The Most Important Problem

Obtaining profitable returns for goods produced on their farms is the most perplexing problem facing Florida farmers. Half the income from all Florida's agricultural enterprises is derived from fruits and vegetables—both highly perishable commodities.

Citrus fruits and winter vegetables have in the past decade largely increased in volume and, proportionately, returned to the growers smaller net profits. The marketing of these crops is the problem which grows more complicated and more acute year by year. Growers have not profited by economies effected and by more efficient production, although they have been able to maintain their enterprises. The savings effected have been absorbed by the handlers and distributors and, in a very minor degree, passed on to the consumers.

About one-third of these perishable products are shipped through cooperatives; but the country's total supply is so great that the cooperatives have been able to do very little better, if any, than the commercial shippers, except to the extent of the equity that members have in packing houses, equipment, and retains.

However, in maintaining high-quality standards and supplying their members with services at cost, the cooperatives force competing marketing organizations to hold their charges in line to the benefit of independent growers.

It is natural that every producer wishes to sell all his products. But most of the intelligent growers of the State have been working for some type of marketing program which will effectuate the elimination of part of the produce from the markets until such time as the consuming public is financially able to



**This is a place where agents are invited to express their ideas and opinions about anything which seems important to them. Those things which please, bother, or help one agent in his work are just the things which prove valuable to other agents.**

take a much greater volume of these products.

Citrus growers now have in effect a marketing agreement which can be used by a growers' administrative committee to periodically eliminate certain grades or sizes, or both.

Florida Citrus Growers, Inc., is a State-wide organization of "Simon-pure" citrus growers with local units in each of the citrus-producing counties. To this organization belongs the credit of obtaining the present marketing agreement, and also of rewriting many of the laws affecting the quality and the marketing of the State's citrus crops.

Through legislative action, Florida has a citrus commission with powers to supervise grades and maturity standards, to advertise the State's fruit, and to enforce certain other regulatory laws.—*K. C. Moore, county agricultural agent, Orange County, Fla.*

## Outlook Schools for County Club Agents

For the past several years we have held separate outlook schools for county club agents, emphasizing points in farm management and outlook which are of special interest and importance to young people who are looking forward to the farm business. These are training schools for club agents. This year we shall attempt to pay more attention to some of the principles of agricultural economics and farm management and less to immediate outlook for agricultural projects, feeling that club members and our agents are more interested in and perhaps need more general information on farm management than they do on immediate outlook on separate farm crops.—*W. J. Wright, State club leader, New York.*

## Finds Pictures Effective

I have read with considerable interest the August issue of the **EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW** featuring various extension workers in visual education presentation. May I join with the other agents in stating that we have found in Woods County that both the motion pictures and the stills form a very helpful and vital part in presenting our extension agricultural information to the people of the county.—*George Felkel, county agricultural agent, Woods County, Okla.*

## Solves Food Problem

Four years ago every rain worthy of the name would cause the Grand River in Iowa to swell up and push out of its banks between Greenfield and Hebron. During the last 2 years it has taken exceptionally heavy rains to even make the river run bankfull.

The important reason for the new state of affairs is that farmers are putting into practice contour farming, terracing, strip cropping, and other soil-conserving methods demonstrated by the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service. These new farming practices are holding on the land rain which formerly hurried to the river and which caused it to rise and flood within an hour or so.

The Grand River watershed area of some 25,000 acres is now contributing its share toward flood prevention in the lower States of the Mississippi drainage area.—*Walter Zellers, county agent, Adair County, Ia.*

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# Consider the HOLIDAY DINNER



- Will it be TURKEY; tender, juicy, and plump; or CHICKEN—DUCK—GOOSE? Whatever the poultry you select, be sure to cook it properly.
- BROIL—FRY—STUFF—ROAST—the young and tender fowl.
- BRAISE—STEAM—STEW—the older bird.

## POULTRY COOKING CHARTS

• This new set of eight charts prepared by specialists of the Bureau of Home Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, shows graphically how to cook poultry to suit the taste. The set of eight charts (20 by 30 inches each) sells for 50 cents.

Order from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Send cash, money order, or certified check.

## FILM STRIPS

• Two new film strips prepared by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Bureau of Home Economics give more picture material on how to turn young birds and old birds into toothsome tenderness.

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The film strips may be purchased from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D. C., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied upon request to the Extension Service.